

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 18 and 22 as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled).

12. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge detachably mountable to a main body of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, said process cartridge comprising:

an electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

a developing roller configured and positioned to develop an electrostatic latent image formed on said electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

a developing blade configured and positioned to regulate the amount of developer on a peripheral surface of said developing roller, said developing blade having a regulating portion configured and positioned to regulate the amount of developer on the peripheral surface of said developing roller and a supporting portion configured and positioned to support said regulating portion;

a developing frame that rotatably supports said developing roller, said supporting portion of said developing blade being attached to said developing frame;

a drum frame that rotatably supports said electrophotographic photosensitive drum and that is connected to said developing frame, wherein said drum frame and said developing frame are connected rockably to each other; and

a biasing member configured and positioned to bias said developing roller toward said electrophotographic photosensitive drum, wherein one end of said biasing member is attached to at least one end of said supporting portion in the longitudinal direction of said developing roller.

13. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge according to Claim 12, wherein the other end of said biasing member is attached to said drum frame.

14. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge according to Claim 12, wherein each of said biasing member and said supporting portion is made of a conductive material.

15. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge according to Claim 12, wherein said one end of said supporting portion protrudes from one end of said developing frame in the longitudinal direction of said developing roller.

16. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge according to Claim 12, wherein said supporting portion has a shape extending in the longitudinal direction of said developing roller.

17. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge according to Claim 12 or 16, wherein said supporting portion is attached to said developing frame by a screw.

18. (Currently Amended) A process cartridge according to Claim 14, further comprising a detection member configured and positioned to detect the capacitance caused by a residual quantity of developer in said process cartridge by applying a voltage to said developing roller, wherein a said voltage is applied to said supporting portion through said biasing member.

19. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge according to Claim 18, further comprising a developing contact portion which, when said process cartridge is mounted to the main body, contacts a main-body-side developing contact portion of the main body that is configured and positioned to apply a voltage to said developing roller, wherein the other end of said biasing member is in contact with said developing contact portion.

20. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge according to Claim 19, wherein said biasing member is an extension coil spring, and said biasing member has a straight line portion extending from and substantially perpendicular to said coil spring, said straight line portion being in contact with said developing contact portion.

21. (Previously Presented) A process cartridge according to Claim 19, further comprising:

- a developer container configured and positioned to contain developer to be supplied to said developing roller; and
- an end cover provided at one end side in the longitudinal direction of said electrophotographic photosensitive drum and configured and positioned to position said drum frame and said developer container,

wherein said developing contact portion is provided on said end cover.

22. (Currently Amended) An electrophotographic image forming apparatus to which a process cartridge is detachably mountable for forming an image on a recording medium, said electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

(i) mounting means for detachably mounting the process cartridge, the process cartridge comprising:

an electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

a developing roller configured and positioned to develop an electrostatic latent image formed on the electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

a developing blade configured and positioned to regulate the amount of developer on a peripheral surface of the developing roller, the developing blade having a regulating portion configured and positioned to regulate the amount of developer on the peripheral surface of the developing roller and a supporting portion configured and positioned to support the regulating portion;

a developing frame that rotatably supports the developing roller, the supporting portion of the developing blade being attached to the developing frame;

a drum frame that rotatably supports the electrophotographic photosensitive drum and that is connected to the developing frame, wherein the drum frame and the developing frame are connected rockably to each other; and

a biasing member configured and positioned to bias the developing roller toward the electrophotographic photosensitive drum, wherein one end of the biasing member is attached to

at least one end of the supporting portion in the longitudinal direction of the developing roller;  
and

(ii) transporting means for transporting the recording medium.

23. (Previously Presented) A developing blade for use in a process cartridge, the process cartridge comprising an electrophotographic photosensitive drum, a developing roller configured and positioned to develop an electrostatic latent image formed on the electrophotographic photosensitive drum, a developing frame that rotatably supports the developing roller, a drum frame that rotatably supports the electrophotographic photosensitive drum and that is connected to the developing frame, wherein the drum frame and the developing frame are connected rockably to each other, and a biasing member configured and positioned to bias the developing roller toward the electrophotographic photosensitive drum, said developing blade comprising:

a regulating portion configured and positioned to regulate the amount of developer on a peripheral surface of the developing roller; and

a supporting portion configured and positioned to support said regulating portion, said supporting portion being attached to the developing frame and having an attaching portion to which one end of the biasing member is attached.